MA Program in Intercultural Communication Studies

Shanghai Theatre Academy (STA)

Introduction

STA’s bilingual (Chinese and English) MA program in Intercultural Communication Studies recruits excellent students with a bachelor’s degree or equivalent from top international and Chinese universities. This two-year English-taught program includes the required first year full-time residency and an optional second year residency for project-based internship. All students in residency are sponsored by STA with full scholarships. After the first year, when the course work is completed, students can choose where to live and intern when they write their MA theses. Duration of study for the MA degree could be extended to maximum of four years. MA theses can be written in Chinese, English, or French.

Entrance Examination

Applicants are expected to have a strong interest in Chinese culture and intercultural communications in any academic and/or artistic field, including but not limited to performing arts, performance studies, literature and all forms of media. Applicants need to fill out the application form before taking the entrance examinations, including a written test to answer two general essay questions in the fields of human civilizations and a Skype/telephone interview, on April 25. Those who submit the application by April 15 will be given preference. The admission notice will be mailed out by May 15.

Curriculum

The curriculum requires 32 credits, including 18 from six mandatory courses from the following list:

Case Studies on Intercultural Communication, a Lecture Series (3 credits each semester)

Performance Studies (3 credits)

Intercultural Theatre: From Greece to the Present (3 credits)
Intercultural Communication-Cultural Creative Industries (3 credits)

Traditional and Modern Chinese Arts and Performance in Global Perspectives (3 credits)

Modern Chinese Society and Politics Through Film (3 credits)

Strategic Innovation and Intercultural Social Practice (3 credits)

The remaining 14 credits are from elective courses, including:

3-4 in Chinese language courses;

4-6 in studio courses (Chinese opera acting, dance, filmmaking);

6 credits for writing the MA thesis under the advisor’s supervision. These are the only credits that can be taken after the first year.

MA Thesis

The MA thesis is the culmination of the student’s two years of study. It will start with a thesis proposal developed in consultation with the MA advisor, chosen at the end of Semester I, and will be accepted by a group of three professors at the end of Semester II. The student will then spend the next year, or more if needed, to write the thesis, while consulting with the advisor in person or electronically. Once completed, the thesis will be defended before a group of five professors. The student will then be granted the MA degree at the next commencement ceremonies.

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